IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the existing Title with the following:

IMAGE CODING/DECODING METHOD, IMAGE CODING APPARATUS AND

IMAGE DECODING APPARATUS FOR OBTAINING DECODED IMAGES

HAVING SMALL DISTORTION IN DCT BASED STANDARD CODING/DECODING

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 23, line 12, with the following

rewritten paragraph:

The JBIG coding part 12 performs undistortion (reversible) compression on the edge

information which is binary information and output from the edge detection part 11 according

to the JBIG coding method. In addition, the edge information is converted into a distance

map by the distance conversion part 13. The distance conversion process performed by the

distance conversion part 13 is a process for obtaining distribution of each distance between a

position (i, j) and a position (m, n) on the image. For example, distance-between an pixel of

the edge part to the adjacent pixel is represented by distance $d(f_{ij}, f_{mn})$ which is defined by

Euclidean distance, 4-adjacent distance, 8-adjacent distance and the like The distance map in

indicates a state of distance values from the pixels of the edge part to the adjacent pixels. For

example, when the distance value is defined by the 4-adjacent distance ($d (f_{ij}, f_{mn}) = |i-m| +$

$|j-n|$), a distance map shown in Fig. 4 can be obtained. In Fig. 4, each rectangular region

represents a pixel and the diagonally shaded rectangular region are pixels of the edge part.

Please insert the following paragraph at page 23, between lines 34 and 35:

For example, as shown in Figure 4 for any particular row of pixels, a particular pixel

is labeled with a numeral, indicating the distance value away from the edge part. For

example, with regard to row 1, the pixel labeled "4" is four pixels removed from the edge

part. The next pixel is labeled "3" and is three pixels removed from the edge part, and so on.